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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/608,595      | 06/30/2000  | Kenneth W O'Flaherty | 8981                | 9513             |

26890 7590 08/11/2004

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EXAMINER

SHAFFER, ERIC T

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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3623

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 3623

1. The following is an response to the Reply Brief filed on June 21, 2004.
2. The reply brief filed April 21, 2004 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

***Conclusion***

3. No claims were allowed and all claims were rejected.
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Eric Shaffer whose telephone number is (703) 305-5283. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on (703) 305-9643.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 746-7238 [After Final communications, labeled "Box AF"]

(703) 746-7239 [Official communications]

(703) 706-9124 [Informal/Draft communications, labeled  
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 2, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 4<sup>th</sup> floor receptionist.

ETS  
August 9, 2004

  
**TARIQ R. HAFIZ**  
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